

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



**ILLINOIS
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ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**



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CROPS

Favorable weather conditions and drier soil during most of last week allowed farmers to make good progress with fieldwork. Reports of frost Tuesday through Thursday were received from all parts of the State, and snow flurries on Thursday were reported in the northern third of the State. Despite cool weather and cool soil temperatures, corn planting moved ahead of last year and the average. Last week farmers were also applying anhydrous ammonia, herbicide pesticide, and fertilizer, seeding oats and set-aside acres, plowing, discing, field cultivating, chiseling, repairing machinery, and tending to livestock. Fruit trees have started blooming but were reported to have suffered some slight damage due to frost. The southern third of the State has reported a problem with alfalfa weevil infestation. For the week of April 16-22, there was an average of five and three-quarters days suitable for fieldwork. Only the Southeast district reported less than 5 days as suitable. This district also indicated a 25% surplus of soil moisture, compared to little or no surplus reported in any other district in the State.

CORN planting, as of April 24, was 22% complete, the same as at this time in 1986 and well ahead of the 10% for both last year and the 5-year average (1983-87). Most of the corn acreage planted is in the southern two thirds of the State minus the Southeast District.

SOYBEAN planting, as of April 24, was about 1% complete, ahead of both last year and the average. Most of the soybean acreage that has been planted, is in the central part of the State. Planting is limited due to cool soil temperatures.

Condition of **WINTER WHEAT** on April 22 was reported as 22% excellent, 75% good, and 3% fair. The crop's condition continues to improve.

OAT seeding as of April 24, was 91% complete, compared to 92% last year and the 5-year average of 68%.

ALFALFA HAY condition on April 22 was reported as 14% excellent, 82% good, and 4% fair. The crop's condition continues to improve too.

PASTURE condition, as of April 22, was rated as 12% excellent, 70% good, and 18% fair. Pastures were supplying about 53% of livestock roughage requirements, compared to 56% last year and the 5-year average of 48%.

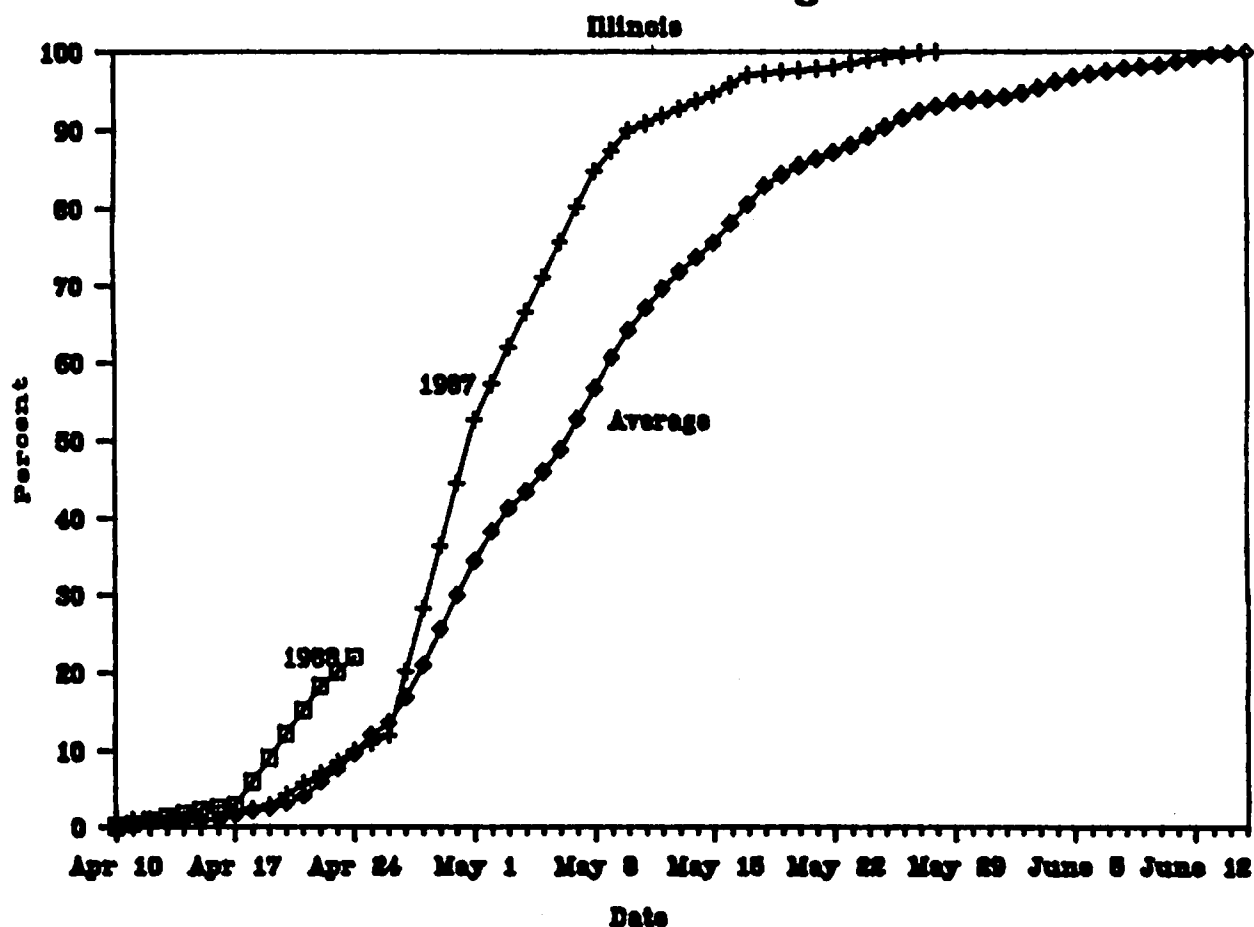
SOIL MOISTURE on April 22 was reported as 26% short, 70% adequate, and 4% surplus.

ILLINOIS DISTRICT SUMMARY

	Corn	Days	Soil
District:	acreage	suitable for:	moisture percent
	% planted:	fieldwork	Short:Adequate:Surplus

	As of April 24	As of April 22
NW	10	6.5
NE	5	6.0
W	30	6.5
C	28	5.5
E	22	5.0
WSW	45	6.5
ESE	25	6.0
SW	25	5.0
SE	10	4.0
State	22	5.75
5-Yr.Avg:	10	

Corn - Percent Acreage Planted



WEATHER

TEMPERATURES AVERAGED 5 TO 10 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL FOR THE WEEK ACROSS MOST OF ILLINOIS. DAYTIME HIGHS OFTEN 5 TO 10 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL AVERAGED IN THE LOW TO MID-50'S NORTH TO THE MID AND UPPER 60'S SOUTH. A BRIEF WARMING TREND TOWARD THE END OF THE WEEK RESULTED IN HIGHS IN THE 60'S AND 70'S TO THE LOW 80'S SOUTH SATURDAY (4/23). OVERNIGHT LOWS ALSO SEVERAL DEGREES COOLER THAN NORMAL AVERAGED IN THE LOW 30'S NORTH TO AROUND 40 SOUTH. INDIVIDUAL NIGHTS EARLY ON SAW LOWS IN THE MID TO UPPER 20'S WITH LOWS IN THE LOWER 20'S NORTH MONDAY (4/18) NIGHT.

PRECIPITATION WAS GENERALLY LESS THAN .50 INCH WITH MANY LOCATIONS EXPERIENCING LESS THAN .20 INCH. ISOLATED INSTANCES OF NEARLY AN INCH OCCURRED AT THE NORTHWEST AND SOUTHERNMOST EXTREMES OF THE STATE. THOSE TOTALS WERE NORMAL FOR THE PERIOD WHILE ELSEWHERE THE RAIN AMOUNTS WERE LESS THAN HALF AND IN MANY CASES ONLY A TENTH OF EXPECTED NORMALS. FORTUNATELY EVAPORATIVE POTENTIAL WAS HELD BACK TO NEAR A TENTH OF AN INCH PER DAY BY THE LOWER THAN NORMAL TEMPERATURES. AVERAGE SOIL TEMPERATURES FOR THE WEEK SLIPPED TO THE UPPER 40'S TO MID-50'S RANGE AND BASE 50 GROWING DEGREE DAY ACCUMULATIONS WERE ALMOST NEGLIGIBLE IN THE NORTH AND LIMITED TO BETWEEN 40 AND 70 IN THE SOUTH.

Week ending 8 A.M. Monday, April 25, 1988

Location	Temperatures			Precipitation	Growing
	Maxi-	Mini-	Deper-	Current	Degree
	mum	mum	ture	week	Days
ELIZABETH	51	25	-13	0.89	11
ROCKFORD	49	31	-9	0.36	8
CHICAGO	51	35	-8	0.24	10
CHI BOTANICAL	49	33	-10	0.41	4
ELWOOD	54	32	-7	0.21	15
WATSEKA	55	33	-8	0.47	20
PERU	55	33	-9	0.21	23
MOLINE	54	34	-8	0.24	20
PEORIA	57	36	-7	0.17	29
KILBOURNE	59	33	-9	0.04	31
MONMOUTH	58	33	-8	0.08	28
QUINCY	60	38	-5	0.00	42
PERRY	63	38	-6	0.02	43
SPRINGFIELD	61	39	-5	0.08	44
DECATUR	60	38	-6	0.07	41
URBANA	58	35	-7	0.17	24
WINDSOR	63	38	-5	0.03	44
TERRE HAUTE	59	36	-7	0.15	37
ST LOUIS	69	45	NA	0.01	73
BELLEVILLE	64	42	-4	0.01	39
BROWNSTOWN	62	34	-9	0.00	32
IUKA	66	39	-5	0.06	52
LAWRENCEVILLE	63	36	NA	0.02	44
VINCENNES	62	38	-6	0.05	47
DIXON SPRINGS	68	38	-7	0.78	48
PADUCAH	70	46	-2	0.30	91
OLIVE BRANCH	70	39	-4	1.10	70
CARBONDALE	66	41	-5	0.07	57
C GIRARDEAU	68	47	NA	0.28	82

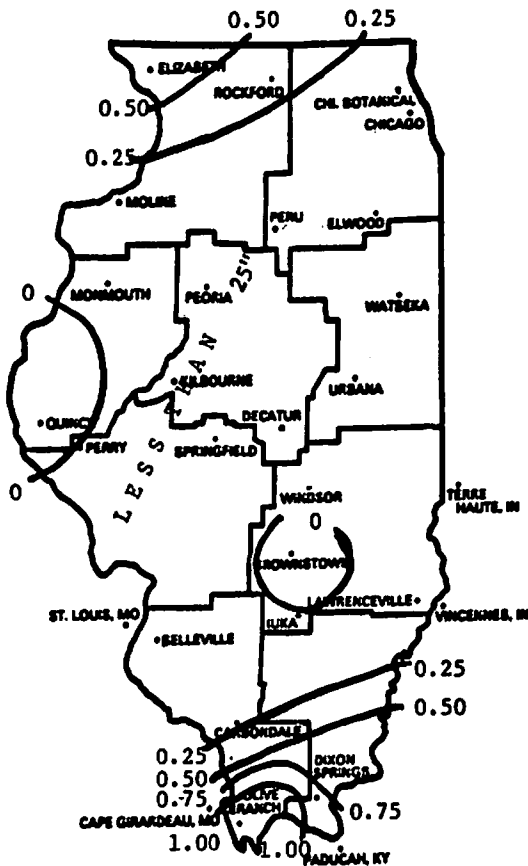
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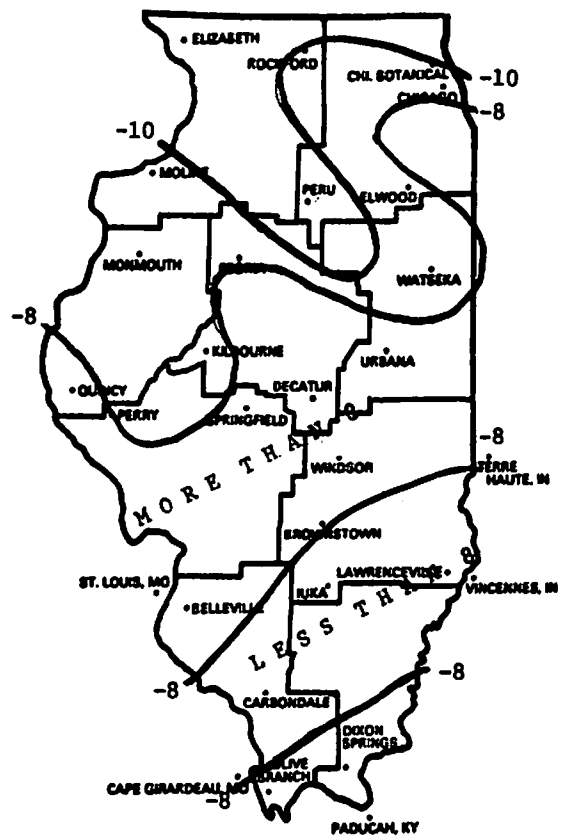
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PRECIPITATION (INCHES)
APRIL 19-25, 1988



TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES FROM
AVERAGE (°F) APRIL 19-25, 1988

CROP INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by county officials of Extension Service and SCS, and agribusiness managers. Additional WEATHER INFORMATION is provided by the Illinois State Water Survey, IDE&NR, Champaign, Ill.; and National Weather Service Cooperative Observers, NOAA, Rosemont, Ill.